



The Ship's Whistle

June 2017

An occasional e-mail bulletin of newsworthy information for Members of the **Massachusetts Bay Council**, Navy League of the United States and other friends of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S.-flag Merchant Marine. The Navy League is unique among military-oriented associations in that it is a civilian organization dedicated to the education of our citizens, including our elected officials, and the support of the men and women of the sea services and their families.

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PLANNED EVENTS:

July 23 evening. USS Constitution is relaunched after two years in drydock. An all-night event, the Museum will be open with hands-on programs for all ages. Mass Bay Council is a Sponsor. More information forthcoming.

August 8. A Sunset cruise in Boston Harbor to benefit the USS Thomas Hudner (DDG 116) Commissioning. More information to follow.

August (date TBD). Coast Guard Birthday event at and USCG Station Point Allerton, Hull, and Hull Life Saving Museum.

October (TBD). Navy Birthday and Annual Meeting

RECENT EVENTS:

June 17-22 **Tall Ships.** Members and Sea Cadets assisted the National Park Service in Charlestown

June 20-24 **Navy League Convention.** Following various committee meetings and presentations, events and tours of Milwaukee, elections were held. The newly elected National President is Alan Kaplan. (More in the next SEAPOWER). Re-elected a National Vice President was Eleanor Samuels and Tomi Olson as a National Director. Newly elected from our council were Paul Mahoney as a Nat'l Director and David Samuels as New England Region President and a Nat'l Director.

Sail Boston - USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41) visit. Visiting in conjunction with Sail Boston, special tours were arranged for Navy League which we extended to other Navy-related organizations such as the Naval Academy Parents' Club, et al. President Hennessey presented a council plaque to the Commanding Officer.

In addition, to assist the National Park Service during the Parade of Tall Ships, some council members and many Sea Cadets from several units were on hand.



Sea Cadet volunteers at NPS Navy Yard
Several NSCC units participated.



Aboard USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41). Tom Hennessey presented a council plaque to the C.O., CDR Ethan Rule. On deck were some of the Navy League tour.



AWARDS: The Navy League's prestigious **Captain David H. Jarvis Award for Inspirational Leadership** was awarded to Commander Andrew S. Brown, USCG, Executive Officer, Coast Guard Base Boston on 14 June at an All Hands Meeting at the Base.



Tom Hennessey, CDR Brown, Eleanor Samuels, RADM James Heinz, USCG.



(l to r) Al Prudhomme, Steve Schnitzer, CAPT J.B. Millican (C.O., CG Base Boston), Eleanor Samuels, Krystyna Macsymowicz, CDR Brown Tom Hennessey, Mrs. Brown, RADM James Heinz and Ivan Samuels

(Usually presented at the Navy League Annual Convention, Cdr Brown's Change of Command conflicted.) Presenting the Award was National Vice President Eleanor Samuels, assisted by council President Tom Hennessey and RADM James Heinz. Attending the ceremonies were several council Board Members (see photo). Full text of the award is on last page.



At the Massachusetts Maritime Academy on 12 June, Past Nat'l President Bill Kelley, Jr., presented a sword to ENS Peter J Usalis, USN, who received his B. S. in Marine Engineering (Magna Cum Laude) while MMA President RADM Francis X. McDonald, USMS, (seated) and Chief Academic Officer Commodore Bradley K. Lima, USMS, are looking on. ENS Usalis has been selected for Submarine School.

Of note is that the Massachusetts Maritime Academy produced 20 cadets receiving commissions in the Navy (Three USN and 17 Naval Reserve) and on other dates, one cadet received a commission in the USCG, two received commissions in the USMC, one in the Army, two in the Army Reserve and four in the National Guard. Dates to be determined for commissioning one USCG, one USAF and one in NOAA.

Captain David H. Jarvis Award for Inspirational Leadership

The Award is named for Captain David H. Jarvis (then a LT) who displayed exceptional leadership and professional ability in conducting a mission across 1,500 miles of frozen Arctic in late 1897 to save a stranded whaling fleet of several hundred men from starvation. In mid-winter, under the most dangerous and demanding conditions, he organized and directed a remarkable expedition that braved blizzards and 50-degrees-below-zero temperatures to bring food and other supplies to the starving men. His outstanding leadership was responsible for organizing the distressed fleet and providing the guidance and discipline essential to their survival. Captain Jarvis was awarded a Gold Medal by a special Act of Congress for his outstanding service.

In tribute to one who has followed a similar course of honored leadership, the Navy League of the United States presented this award in 2017 to Commander Andrew S. Brown, USCG, for inspirational leadership while serving as the Executive Officer of Base Boston. During an exceptionally dynamic period including widespread reorganization, declining resources and personnel challenges, he masterfully led and inspired 541 crew members including personnel assigned hundreds of miles away. As the Base construct matured during Mission Support Modernization 2.0, his positive leadership was crucial to the integration of Naval Engineering and Information Technology personnel who were previously a part of separate, distinct commands. Focused on Duty to People, he immediately made the two new Base Departments feel like a part of the team and allowed their senior leaders to continue running the technical aspects of their work while the Base assumed the roles of command authority. As a passionate proponent of the Leadership and Diversity Advisory Council, he skillfully leveraged the Council's expertise and enthusiasm to tackle issues addressed in the annual climate survey. Using the hard data and comments submitted by the crew, he identified the top three areas for command action: Trust in Leadership, Exhaustion, and Leadership Cohesion. Taking it to the next level, he then partnered with the Council of the Labor Management Forum which worked in harmony to establish an action plan that he executed in the months that followed, resulting in significant climate improvements. Responsive to our operational partners, he was the key champion on the First District Work-Life Integrated Process Team tasked with organizing, drafting and compiling seven issue papers on people issues that deeply concerned the District Commander. Within months, the Team surveyed every unit in the District, briefed the Admiral on the results and prepared a memo for the District Commander's signature requesting relief and action at Headquarters. Commander Brown's outstanding leadership skills, ability to create a positive command climate, deliberate actions driven by strategic intent and guidance, and coaching and mentoring of others are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard and the Navy League of the United States.

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